



*Feasting on the Northern Neck. Photo by Ali Zaman, courtesy of Va. Tourism Corp.*

# REGION 17

## *Northern Neck*

### MAP ICON KEY

 VOP Mapper

 Data explorer

 PDF

## Introduction

The Northern Neck, encompassing 882 square miles, includes farms, forests, tidal wetlands, rivers, streams and marshes. Tourism, outdoor recreation, history and rich natural resources beckon visitors and residents eager to escape the stresses of urban life.

The Potomac and Rappahannock rivers and the Chesapeake Bay form three of the boundaries for the Northern Neck Recreational Planning Region. The region includes four counties: Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland and consists of 476,800 land acres and 87,680 water acres. Six towns are located within the region: Colonial Beach, Irvington, Kilmarnock, Montross, Warsaw and White Stone. There are more than 1,000 miles of shoreline, which comprise 38 percent of the total Tidewater shoreline in Virginia. Wetlands cover 37,890 acres of the region. More than 50 percent of the region's land area is forested.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates the region had a population of 50,429 in 2010, comprising 0.63 percent of Virginia's population. Continuing with this growth rate of 2.13 percent, the population will be 51,505 by 2020. Growth rates varied across the region from a decrease of 1.55 percent in Lancaster County to an increase of 4.81 percent in Richmond County. To compare population and population change by locality in Virginia, see the [2010 Census Total Population Maps](#).

## Regional focus

Through the 2011 Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey and partnerships with local and regional staff, four priority considerations for the Virginia Outdoors Plan emerged: opportunities for outdoor recreation, economics, health and wellness, and land conservation. The following section summarizes thoughts and strategies specific to the region.

**Health:** Citizens cited the need to incorporate wellness plans that include outdoor recreation as a part of treatment and health insurance options. In addition, citizens were interested in schools getting students outdoors and in parks to meet physical-education requirements.

**Youth:** Geocaching is growing in popularity. Expanding apps for park information was mentioned as a means for prompting young people into the outdoors.

**Trails:** Biking and walking can be incorporated within the region's small towns by implementing traffic-calming measures. In addition, off-road vehicle facilities are needed. The Chesapeake Bay Wine Trail is an important tourism attraction that connects regional resources. Linking the region's state parks, wineries and other tourist attractions with long-distance bike trails was part of the public discussion.

**Table 17.1 Most-needed outdoor recreation**

*Northern Neck Recreational Planning Region*

activity	% of households in	
	region	state
Public access to state waters for fishing, swimming and beach use	61	60
Trails for hiking and walking	61	68
Natural areas	56	55
Public access to state waters for nonmotorized boating (canoeing or kayaking)	49	46
Trails for wildlife watching and nature study	49	45
Trails for bicycling	48	54
Historic areas	46	51
Public pools	45	38
Playing fields for outdoor sports (softball, baseball, football and soccer)	44	40
Outdoor playing courts for tennis and basketball	31	32
Public access to state waters for motorized boating	30	22
Trails for horseback riding	26	22
Trails for motorized off-road vehicles	21	17
Other	8	6

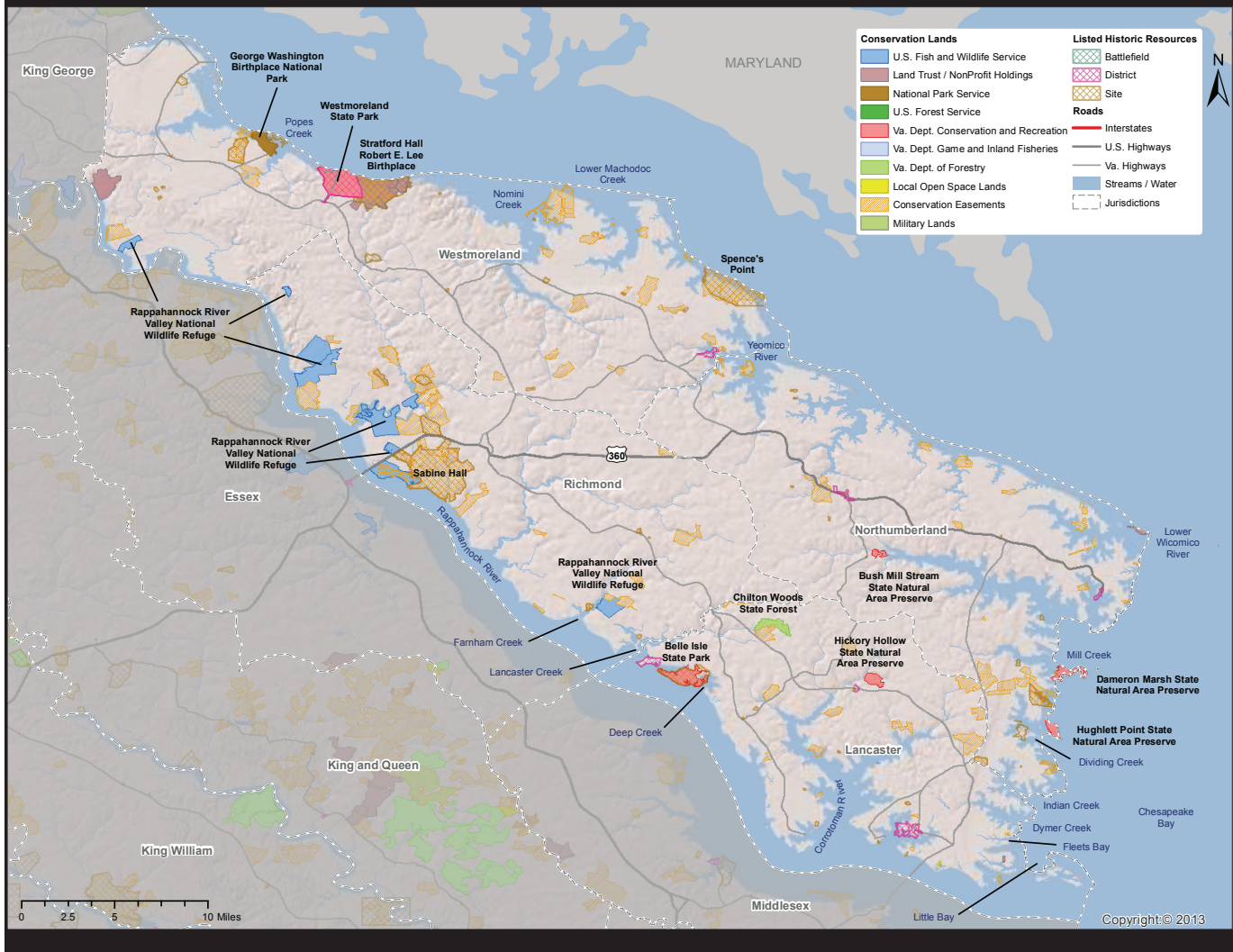
*Source: 2011 Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey.*

*Northern Neck, Middle Peninsula and Accomack-Norhampton regions were combined for sampling purposes.*

**Water access:** Public acquisition of waterfront property is important to citizens in this region. The need for additional public kayak and canoe launches, as well as fishing access, was mentioned in the public meetings. There is a desire to match parking with the recreational capacity of each waterway. The Northern Neck region is interested in the Virginia Department of Transportation program developed first in the Middle Peninsula region to transfer end-of-the-road water access to localities. In addition, opportunities may be pursued through the Northern Neck Public Access Authority and other private and nonprofit entities to allow more public access to the region's waters. This may include the restoration of fisheries, marinas and seafood houses to provide access to the water.



Map 17.1 Conservation lands



**Land conservation:** Citizens are interested in the water quality benefits of land conservation.



Canoeing at Belle Isle State Park. Photo by Virginia Tourism Corp.

## Land conservation

Public meeting participants indicated a need to educate the public about land conservation. In this region, development often occurs so gradually that its cumulative impact is not recognized by the majority of citizens. Green-infrastructure strategies prioritizing options for development and conservation are needed.

Federal land holdings include the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge, managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the George Washington Birthplace National Monument, managed by the National Park Service. State conservation lands include four natural area preserves and Chilton Woods State Forest. The region has three state parks protected for outdoor recreation and conservation: Belle Isle State Park on the Rappahannock River, and Caledon and Westmoreland State Parks on the Potomac River.

**Table 17.2 Conserved lands***Northern Neck Recreational Planning Region*

locality	acres	type
Lancaster County	2,558.78	Easement
Lancaster County	1,414.17	Ownership
Northumberland County	3,664.00	Easement
Northumberland County	718.90	Ownership
Richmond County	6,134.18	Easement
Richmond County	5,905.29	Ownership
Westmoreland County	7,429.61	Easement
Westmoreland County	2,712.55	Ownership
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,537.47</b>	

Source: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Protected Lands Inventory, 2013.

The planning district commission has supported activities of the Northern Neck Land Conservancy by providing maps of properties to aid in negotiations with landowners considering conservation easements. In 2001, the NNLC entered into cooperative agreements with all four Northern Neck counties (as well as King George County, which is outside of the district) to co-hold conservation easements. If a landowner wishes to place a conservation easement on his or her property, the county in which the property lies will share enforcement of the easement with the NNLC.

Regional and local organizations and agencies should support land-protection efforts on priority land identified by conservation partners in the region. Lands for protection may include those located adjacent to rivers and tributaries, national and state park and forest lands, other parks and natural areas, core battlefield areas, properties on the state and national historic registers, and state scenic byways. For more information about prioritizing land conservation, see Chapter 5, Conservation Planning.

Land conservation recommendations:

- Property owners and local agencies and organizations should continue to work with land trusts to protect important private land holdings, especially to preserve wetlands and water resources.
- Land trusts should obtain additional easements to buffer the Rappahannock River Valley Wildlife Refuge.
- Local residents, agencies and organizations should pursue conservation measures to protect water quality and the health of adjacent riparian lands along all creeks.

#### Land trusts operating in the region:

Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Northern Neck Land Conservancy, Friends of the Rappahannock, Ducks Unlimited, Land Trust of Virginia, The Nature Conservancy, Virginia Outdoors Foundation, the Conservation Fund, and the Trust for Public Land.

For more information about prioritizing land conservation, see Chapter 5, Conservation Planning.

## Outdoor recreation

One of the largest voids in public parks and recreation departments in Virginia is in the Northern Neck region. None of the counties employs a full-time parks and recreation director. These localities rely on the private sector to provide recreation programming. While private entities may provide recreation programming in the short term, they are not charged with planning for the long-term recreation, park and open-space needs of each community. As populations increase in each of the four Northern Neck counties, a more comprehensive planning approach will be needed.

The [Northern Neck Tourism Commission](#) maintains a comprehensive list of regional outdoor recreation opportunities.

During the VOP public input process, the need for multipurpose playing fields, as well as a regional group to coordinate field use was mentioned. While natural waters are abundant, public pools are desired for swimming. Trails and water access are key recreation assets in the region. Among the most popular outdoor recreation activities are sunbathing, swimming at the beach, swimming in a pool and saltwater fishing. Twenty-five percent of those participating in outdoor recreation in this region enjoy power boating. Water access activities are the highest outdoor-recreation priority for the region.

**Table 17.3 Per-capita spending on parks and recreation***Northern Neck Recreational Planning Region*

locality	dollars
Lancaster County	6.58
Northumberland County	3.65
Richmond County	4.27
Westmoreland County	5.92
Town of Colonial Beach	2.48
Statewide	62.81

Source: Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts, "Comparative Report on Local Government Revenues and Expenditures," 2011.

### Economic impact

The planning district office assists counties with planning, development and marketing of industrial sites and buildings. The Northern Neck region has a small business development center and enterprise zones within each county and in some towns. The region supports the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail and recognizes the relevance this resource has in attracting visitors to the region. Similarly, there may be small-business endeavors related to water resources and water trails for tourism, education and outdoor recreation. The planning district also serves as the administrative and fiscal agent for the Northern Neck Tourism Commission.

According to the Virginia Tourism Corp., domestic travel to the region generated more than \$200 million in 2010, or approximately 1 percent of statewide travel expenditures.

### Health and wellness

According to the County Health Rankings and Roadmaps program, 26 percent of the adult population in the region was physically inactive during their leisure time in 2009. Children

in poverty, ranging from 24 percent in Richmond County to 28 percent in Northumberland County, need opportunities to participate in outdoor recreation. The absence of parks and recreation departments within this region may inhibit outreach and opportunities to promote recreation as a health initiative.

Public comments for health and wellness:

- Increase the number of outdoor fitness facilities, including hiking and fitness trails.
- Promote healthy living, wellness planning and potential linkages to outdoor recreation.
- Increase biking and walking facilities along with traffic-calming in township enclaves.
- Promote park visitation through school-based health and physical-education programs.

### Regional featured projects

To be considered a regional featured project, a project must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Has statewide or regional significance.
- Addresses top statewide or regional needs identified by the Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey.
- Has involvement and support from multiple jurisdictions in the region.
- Is able to be initiated within the next five years.

### Featured projects for the Northern Neck region

- Develop Westland Beach (Windmill Point) fishing pier in Lancaster County.
- Construct the Ashley Cove canoe and kayak launch in Lancaster County.
- Construct the Taylor Creek canoe and kayak launch in Lancaster County.

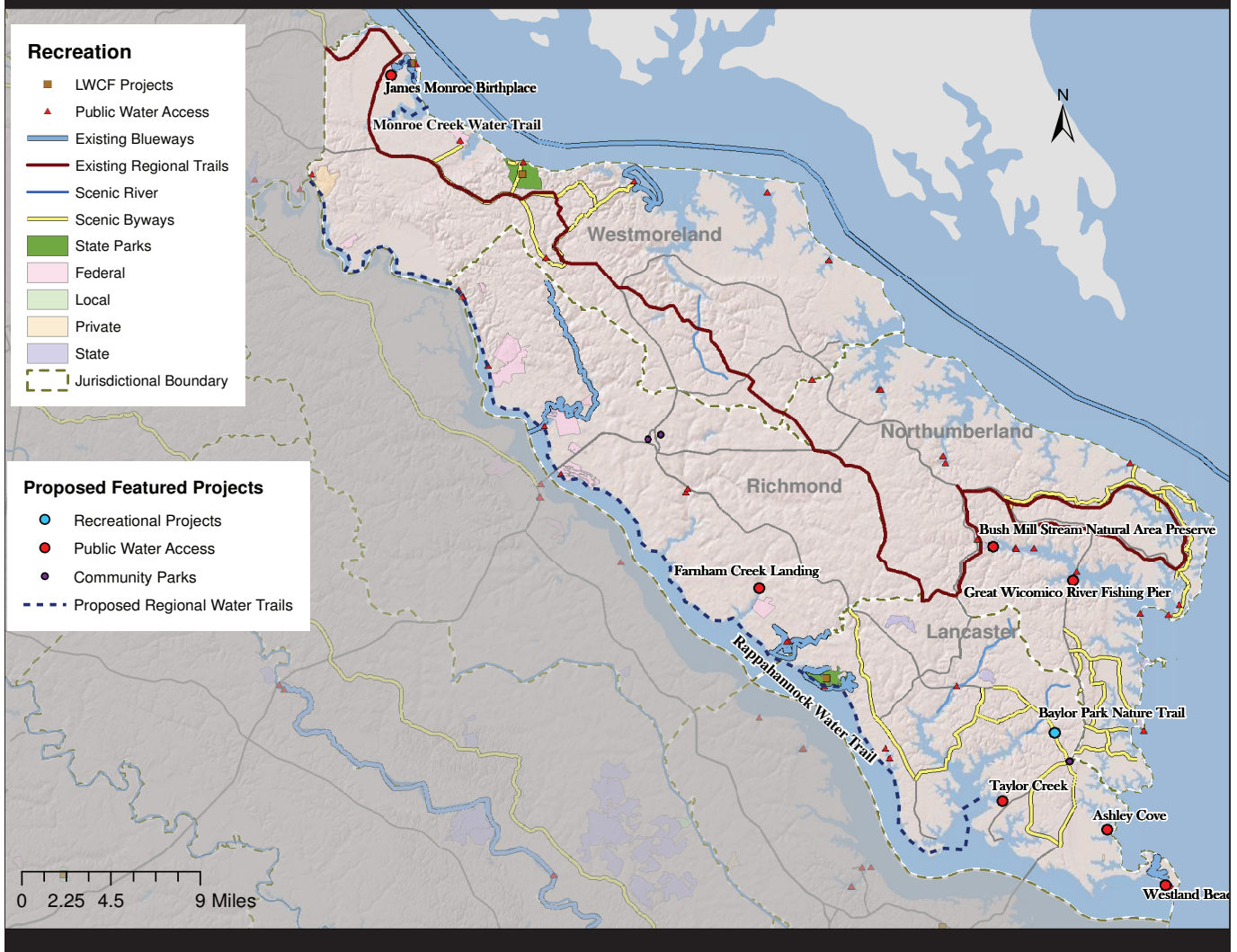
**Table 17.4 Virginia State Parks 2013 attendance and economic impact***Northern Neck Recreational Planning Region*

state park	location	overnight visitors	day-use visitors	total visitors	economic impact
Belle Isle	Lancaster County	12,140	30,602	42,742	\$1,400,132
Westmoreland	Westmoreland County	75,803	150,908	226,711	\$8,099,753

Source: Virginia State Parks



Map 17.2 Northern Neck featured projects



- Develop the Great Wicomico fishing pier and canoe and kayak launch in Northumberland County.
- Improve access at the Bush Mill Stream Natural Area Preserve.
- Construct a canoe and kayak landing dock in Northumberland County.
- Improve the Farnham Creek Landing public-access site.
- Develop the Monroe Creek Water Trail on Monroe Bay.
- Construct the James Monroe Birthplace canoe and kayak launch in Westmoreland County.
- Develop the Baylor Creek Nature Trail in Kilmarnock.

### Local parks and recreation projects

- Each of the Northern Neck's counties and towns should consider establishing local parks and recreation departments or should form a regional park authority to partner with Virginia Tourism Corp.
- Explore reclamation of abandoned landfills to create parks.
- Complete the Community Park Hiking/Fitness Trail in Richmond County.
- Improve Warsaw Town Park.

## Water access

The Northern Neck Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority was created to identify land — either owned by the Commonwealth or private holdings — that can be secured or purchased for use by the general public as a public-access site. The Northern Neck Planning District Commission serves as the administrative and fiscal agent for the public-access authority, which assists counties in creating new public water-access sites and enhancing existing sites.

### *Regional water-access*

projects include the Friends of the Rappahannock, which has expanded to serve the tidal lower portions of the watershed, and the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail.

Water access and blueways recommendations:

- The Northern Neck Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority should continue work on water trails, canoe and kayak trail maps, and trip planning.
- Local and regional agencies should develop water-to-land access between Stratford Hall Plantation and the George Washington Birthplace National Monument.
- The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation should develop a canoe and kayak camping area along the shoreline within Westmoreland State Park.
- Local and regional agencies should develop the Monroe Creek Water Trail segment, incorporating James Monroe Birthplace in Westmoreland County.
- DCR and local and regional agencies should develop the Hughlett Point to Dameron Marsh kayak trail in Northumberland County.
- Local and regional agencies should develop the water trail segment for Cat Point Creek Blueway in Richmond County.
- Local, regional and state agencies should evaluate the region for potential areas to locate fishing piers. Westland Beach (Windmill Point) in Lancaster County is a potential location for a fishing pier.
- Vir Mar Beach in Northumberland County on the Potomac River should enhance beach access.
- Local and regional agencies should evaluate Sharps Landing for public access.
- Encourage the Northern Neck Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority to prioritize the conversion of end-of-the-road public access sites into community public access. Use the protocol developed by the Middle Peninsula Public Access Authority as a model.

- Local, regional and state partners should encourage working waterfront efforts to protect water access, educate and promote tourism along the region's rivers and streams.
- Local, regional and state partners should promote water trails for tourism, recreation and education.
- Local and region agencies should plan for platform camping along one or more water trails.

## Trails and greenways

### *Multistate trails or routes*

Trails recognized under the National Trails System Act include the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail and the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail.

### *Statewide trunkline trails*

Local and regional agencies and organizations should promote the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail and include recommendations for implementation and sustainability in local comprehensive plans.

### *Regional trails*

- Local and regional agencies and organizations should complete a water trail and bicycle route from the George Washington Birthplace to Mount Vernon to include alternatives that protect scenic resources. An off-road connection between the George Washington Birthplace and Stratford Hall is desirable.
- The James Monroe Foundation should continue to develop a parking lot, trails and interpretive sign at Monroe's Birthplace in Westmoreland County and should work with local and regional agencies to connect the birthplace to the town of Colonial Beach with a bicycle-walking trail.



*A festival draws visitors to historic Stratford Hall in Westmoreland County.  
Photo by Stratford Hall.*

The Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail is a network of locally managed trails between the mouth of the Potomac River and the Allegheny Highlands. Implement “[A Development and Management Plan for the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail in Virginia](#)” to eliminate trail gaps.

### ***Bike routes***

There is a route for bicycling between northern Stafford County and the town of Reedville in Northumberland County. This route is the backbone of the PHNST, with loops providing short side excursions for historical, environmental and cultural interests.

- A safe route for bicyclists is needed between Colonial Beach and Route 214 in Westmoreland County.
- Local and regional agencies and organizations should connect Irvington with Kilmarnock with a bike route.

### ***Other trails***

- Explore opportunities for ropes courses in the region.
- Provide opportunities for all-terrain vehicles.
- Connect water trails, bike trails and hiking trails to create a regional, intermodal system. Linking special sites including parks, historic areas, restaurants and wineries.

### ***Thematic driving tours***

There has been tremendous interest in thematic driving tours. These include heritage-based tours, agricultural or product-based tours, and nature-based tours such as the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail and Fish Virginia First. The Virginia Tourism Corp. maintains a [list](#) of Virginia’s scenic drives.

## **Historic and landscape resources**

Heritage tourism and preservation of historical properties is important to the economic future of the Northern Neck. Menokin, Historic Christ Church, Reedville Fishermen’s Museum, James Monroe and George Washington birthplaces, Stratford Hall, Rice’s Hotel/Hughlett Tavern as well as several other points of historical significance are important historic properties. The Northern Neck Tourism Commission and the Northern Neck Planning District Commission have worked to connect and promote many of the historic resources along with the culturally rich landscapes.

## **Scenic resources**

The following scenic resources were identified through Virginia Outdoors Plan public meetings or in collaboration with Scenic Virginia, a private, nonprofit organization that is building a registry of Virginia places of significant scenic beauty.

- Downing Bridge in Tappahannock
- Merry Point Ferry
- Hughlett Point
- Corrottoman River
- Route 374 to Westmoreland State Park
- Dameron Marsh
- Reedville’s working waterfront
- Stratford Hall

## **Scenic highways and Virginia byways**

The Virginia Department of Transportation provides information about the [Virginia Byways Program](#) along with a scenic roads [map](#).

The following are potential Virginia byways and should be evaluated to determine if they qualify for designation:

- Routes 205 and 3 in Westmoreland County
- Route 360 in Richmond and Northumberland counties
- Route 354 in Lancaster County

## **Scenic rivers**

There are no state scenic rivers designated in the Northern Neck region.

The following river segments are potential Virginia scenic rivers and should be evaluated to determine suitability for designation:

- The Rappahannock River from the Route 3 bridge at Ferry Farm to the Chesapeake Bay
- The Corrotoman River in Lancaster County
- Cat Point Creek from Route 622 to its junction with the Rappahannock River

## **Federal programs**

### **National parks**

National parks in this region:

- Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail
- Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail
- George Washington Birthplace National Monument



- The National Park Service should continue collaborative efforts through the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Water Trails Program and the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail to connect people to heritage, outdoor recreation, and educational opportunities and resources.
- NPS should continue PHNST trail corridor management, implementing partnerships involving local, state and regional entities.

### National wildlife refuges and fish hatcheries

- USFWS should continue to seek opportunities to acquire additional sites along the Potomac River to help protect eagle habitat and other natural heritage resources.
- USFWS should continue to develop outdoor recreation and outreach education opportunities at the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

## State facilities and programs

### State parks

A [master plan](#) has been developed for the following state parks in this region. The master plan outlines proposed, phased facility development in each of the parks.

[Belle Isle State Park](#) (740 acres) is located in Lancaster County with frontage on the Rappahannock River, and Deep and Mulberry creeks.

Recommendations:

- Provide shoreline stabilization at the visitor center, day-use area and Watch House.
- Dredge Deep Creek to the boat ramp.
- Develop interpretive exhibits for the visitor center.
- Construct additional 30 campsites with bathhouse, laundry and other standard amenities.
- Construct a temporary tie-up adjacent to boat ramp.
- Design and construct a trail with a bridge across Mulberry Creek inlet.

[Westmoreland State Park](#) (1,321 acres) is located in Westmoreland County along the cliffs of the Potomac River.

Recommendations:

- Develop interpretive exhibits for the visitor center.
- Place electric lines underground.
- Install a playground near swimming pool and picnic area.

- Construct four canoe-in campsites.
- Construct two staff residences.
- Construct a contact station and welcome center.
- Improve the boat launch area.
- Repurpose the boat house as a comfort station.
- Renovate bathhouses in Campgrounds A, B and C.
- Upgrade campsites with water and electric facilities in Campgrounds A and B.

### State natural area preserves and natural heritage resources

With abundant shoreline along the lower Potomac and Rappahannock rivers and the Chesapeake Bay, the Northern Neck region has very important habitat for a number of coastal species and plant communities. Beaches in the district have populations of the globally rare sea-beach knotweed, federally threatened northeastern beach tiger beetle and least tern nesting colonies. Single populations of Kentucky lady's slipper, sensitive joint-vetch and Parker's pipewort are part of the region's globally rare flora.

DCR recommends that all unprotected conservation sites, and all unprotected portions of partially protected sites, be targeted for future land conservation efforts. The appropriate method of protection will vary with each site but may include placing the site on [Virginia's Registry of Natural Areas](#), developing a voluntary management agreement with the landowner, securing a conservation easement through a local land trust, acquiring the site through a locality or local land trust, dedicating the site as a natural area preserve with the current owner, or acquiring the site as a state-owned natural area preserve.

Conservation targets include:

- Protection of lands around Hughlett Point and Dameron Marsh natural area preserves.
- Protection of sandy beach habitats and associated wetlands and uplands that support the threatened northeastern beach tiger beetle.

Information about the location of conservation sites and the natural heritage resources they contain, as well as management assistance, is available to local planners from DCR's Natural Heritage staff. For a discussion of the [Natural Heritage Program](#), see Chapter 9.

**Table 17.5 Natural area preserves***Northern Neck Recreational Planning Region*

preserve name	owner	locality
Bush Mill Stream	DCR	Northumberland County
Dameron Marsh	DCR	Northumberland County
Hickory Hollow	Northern Neck Audubon Society	Lancaster County
Hughlett Point	DCR	Northumberland County

*Source: Virginia Natural Heritage Program.***Table 17.6 Natural heritage resources***Northern Neck Recreational Planning Region*

Number of occurrences of rare species and significant natural communities	227
Number of different rare species and significant community types (natural heritage elements)	38
Number of globally rare natural heritage elements	17
Number of species listed as federally endangered or threatened	2
Number of species listed as state endangered or threatened	4
Number of conservation sites identified by DCR	122
Number of conservation sites with some protection	50
Number of conservation sites with more than 65% of area with some protection	16
Number of adequately protected conservation sites	2

*Data as of July 1, 2012.**Source: Virginia Natural Heritage Program.***State forests**

The Virginia Department of Forestry should develop conservation education opportunities and passive recreation activities, including trails, at Chilton Woods State Forest in Lancaster County.

**Other state lands**

Recreational access at Rappahannock Community College in Richmond County should be improved and expanded. The campus has 118 acres of land and a rudimentary hiking trail and is already on the Virginia Wildlife and Birding Trail.

**Private sector**

- Private-sector entrepreneurs should identify opportunities to meet growing tourist demands by working with the Northern Neck Tourism Council.
- Landowners should evaluate the potential for creating and marketing water-to-land access points which would provide safe areas for boats to dock for overnight stays, meals or sightseeing.
- Landowners should evaluate the potential and marketing strategy for boat-in bed and breakfasts.
- Landowners should explore opportunities to convert abandoned seafood-processing facilities into water-based recreational developments.

## Website directory

Northern Neck Tourism Commission

<http://www.northernneck.org/>

U.S. Census Total Population Maps

<http://www.census.gov/geo/maps-data/maps/datamapper.html>

County Health Rankings and Roadmaps – Virginia map

<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/virginia/2012/measures/factors/24/map>

Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail

<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/vbwt/>

Virginia Tourism Corp. – Economic Impact of Travel

<http://www.vatc.org/research/economicimpact/>

List of Virginia Land Trusts

[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/land\\_conservation](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/land_conservation)

Bush Mill Stream Natural Area Preserve

[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural\\_heritage/natural\\_area\\_preserves/bushmill.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/natural_area_preserves/bushmill.shtml)

James Monroe Birthplace

<http://www.monroefoundation.org/monroe-birthplace.html>

Northern Neck Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority

<http://www.nnpdc.org/PAGES/PAA/public-access.htm#background>

Friends of the Rappahannock

<http://www.riverfriends.org/OurPrograms/TidallowerWatershed/tabid/608/Default.aspx>

Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail

<http://www.nps.gov/cajo/index.htm>

National Trails System Act

<http://www.nps.gov/nts/legislation.html>

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail

<http://www.nps.gov/pohe/index.htm>

Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail

<http://www.nps.gov/cajo/index.htm>

Star Spangled Banner National Historic Trail.

<http://www.nps.gov/stsp/index.htm>

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail

<http://www.nps.gov/pohe/index.htm>

A Development and Management Plan for the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail in Virginia

[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational\\_planning/tr-sbiib2b.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational_planning/tr-sbiib2b.shtml)

Fish Virginia First

<http://www.fishvirginiafirst.com/>

Scenic drives and driving tours through Virginia

<http://www.virginia.org/ScenicDrives/>

Scenic Virginia

<http://www.scenicvirginia.org/>

Virginia Byways Program

<http://www.virginiadot.org/programs/prog-byways.asp>

George Washington Birthplace National Monument

<http://www.nps.gov/gewa/index.htm>

Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge

<http://www.fws.gov/refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=51622>

State park master plans

[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational\\_planning/masterplans.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational_planning/masterplans.shtml)

Belle Isle State Park

[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational\\_planning/masterplans.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational_planning/masterplans.shtml)

Westmoreland State Park

[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state\\_parks/wes.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/wes.shtml)

Virginia's Registry of Natural Areas

[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural\\_heritage/registry.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/registry.shtml)

Natural Heritage

[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural\\_heritage/index.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/index.shtml)